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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/874,012	06/06/2001	Shigehiro Kadota	35.C15407	7491

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, JENNIFER T	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2674	

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/874,012	KADOTA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jennifer T. Nguyen	2674	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *REC filed 03/09/05*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-9 and 11-31* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-9,11-31* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is responsive to amendment filed on 7/22/2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 12-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aratani et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,538,675).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Regarding claims 1 and 6, referring to Figs. 1 and 4A-8B, Aratani teaches a display apparatus (31) displaying images from a plurality of information processing apparatuses (1-1 to 1-4), comprising:

image inputting means (2-1 to 2-4) for inputting respective image signals from the plurality of information processing apparatuses (1-1 to 1-4) (col. 4, lines 16-24);

display controlling means (6) for constructing on a display screen display regions (13) in which respective images corresponding to the image signals from the plurality of information processing apparatuses (1-1 to 1-4) are displayed (col. 4, lines 56-65);

inputting means (21) for inputting a signal containing coordinate information corresponding to a position on the display screen;

determining means (14) for determining an information processing apparatus (1-1 to 1-4) to which converted information is sent, based on the input signal inputted by the inputting means (21); and

means (i.e., USB) for sending the converted information (i.e., converted X and Y information) to the information processing apparatus (i.e., the image source 1-1) determined by determining means (14), wherein the converted information is converted from the coordinate information such that the information processing apparatus determined by said determined means can use the converted information as coordinate information (col. 7, line 49 to col. 8, line 12) without using information indicating where the display region in which the image signal outputted by the information processing apparatus determined by determining means is positioned on the display screen.

Regarding claims 2 and 7, Aratani further teaches the determining means (14) determines an information processing apparatus (1-1 to 1-4) to which the input signal is sent, based on the coordinate on the display screen (13) indicated by said input signal (from col. 9, line 39 to col. 10, line 47).

Regarding claims 3 and 8, Aratani further teaches the display controlling means (6)

displays on a first display region (1-1) (Fig. 2) an image signal from a first information processing apparatus (1-1), and displays on a second display region (1-2) (Fig. 2) at least one image signal from a second information processing apparatus (1-2) in the first display region (from col. 4, line 8 to col. 5, line 65).

Regarding claims 4 and 9, Aratani further teaches the display controlling means (6) divides said display screen into screens (A, B, C, and D) (Fig. 4A), the number of which is equal to the number of said plurality of information processing apparatuses (1-1 to 1-4), to construct display regions in which respective image signals from the plurality of information processing apparatuses are displayed (from col. 11, line 27 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 12, referring to Figs. 1 and 4A-8B, Aratani teaches a display apparatus (31) performing display based on a first image signal, which is an image signal from a first information processing apparatus (1-1) that performs a predetermined information processing based on a coordinate signal representing a predetermined position on the screen displayed on the basis of a signal outputted by the first information processing apparatus , and a second image signal, which is an image signal from a second information processing apparatus (1-2) that performs a predetermined information processing based on a coordinate signal representing a predetermined position on the screen (13) displayed on the basis of a signal outputted by the second information processing apparatus (col. 9, line 55 to col. 10, line 9), the display device comprising:

a receiving circuit (20) receiving said first image signal and said second image signal;

a coordinate information receiving circuit (19) receiving signals from a coordinate input device (21) that transforms into a signal an indicated position on a display surface on which a

screen based on said first image signal and a screen based on said second image signal are displayed;

a circuit (18) for converting the signal inputted from the coordinate input device into the converted coordinate information; and

and a communication circuit (i.e. USB) sending the converted information processing apparatus, wherein the converter information sent to the first information processing apparatus (1-1) has coordinate information which can be used in said first information processing apparatus without using information indicating where the screen based on said first image signal is positioned on the display surface, and the converted information sent to the second information processing apparatus (1-2) has coordinate information which can be used in said second information processing apparatus without using information indicating where the screen based on said second image signal is positioned on the display surface (col. 7, line 49 to col. 8, line 12).

Regarding claim 13, Aratani further teaches that the apparatus further comprising said coordinate input device (21) (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 14, Aratani further teaches the coordinate input device (21) is provided in such a manner that the coordinate device is placed over said display surface (13) (from col. 7, line 45 to col. 8, line 31).

Regarding claims 15 and 16, Aratani further teaches coordinate input device (21) electrically reads the indicated position on said display surface (13) (from col. 9, line 39 to col. 10, line 47).

Regarding claims 17-21, Aratani further teaches the determination circuit (14) determines

an information processing apparatus (1-1 to 1-4) to which said input signal is sent, according to information that is given externally (from col. 9, line 39 to col. 10, line 47).

Regarding claims 22-31, Aratani further teaches the determination circuit (14) determines an information processing apparatus (1-1 to 1-4) to which said input signal is sent, based on said input signal (from col. 9, line 39 to col. 10, line 47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aratani et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,538,675).

Regarding claim 11, Aratani teaches all the subject matter claimed except for thc use of the computer circuitry instead of program code. However, those skilled in the computer art it is obvious that such implementation can be expressed in terms of either computer program or a computer circuitry implementation, the two being functional equivalent of one another. See In re Ruff, 256 F. 2d 590, 118 USPQ 340, 343 (CCPA 1958).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicants' arguments filed 7/22/2005, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive because as follows:

In response to applicants' argument filed "Aratani is not understood to teach or suggest using converted information as coordinate information without using information indicating

where the display region in which the image signal outputted by the determined information processing apparatus is positioned on the display screen." Examiner respectfully disagrees. Aratani teaches the X and Y information of the input device (22) is transmitted to the infrared data receiving portion (20), the infrared data control portion (19) derives necessary X and Y coordinate values and outputs the derived data to the infrared data conversion portion (18). The infrared data conversion portion (18) converts the X and Y information to the image source (1-1) (col. 7, lines 49-67). Therefore, the combined X and Y information is transferred to the image source (1-1) so that the position information of the mouse is supplied to a CPU of the image source (col. 8, lines 1-12). Therefore Aratani teaches using converted information as coordinate information without using information indicating where the display region in which the image signal outputted by the determined information processing apparatus is positioned on the display screen. The rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7696. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick N. Edouard can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jennifer Nguyen
9/16/05

REGINA LIANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER